

HOLIDAY CRIME PREVENTION



**DURING ONE OF THE HIGHEST
CRIME TIMES OF THE YEAR,
PLEASE TAKE THE
FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS TO
ENSURE THE SAFETY OF YOU
AND YOUR FAMILY**



BEFORE YOU SHOP

- **AVOID CARRYING A PURSE.** Use a fanny pack or deep pockets in clothing to carry what you need
- Carry small amounts of cash
- Carry your keys, cash and credit cards separate from each other and be constantly paying attention to what's going on around you
- If you're not sure a shopping bag will be available to you, take one of your own to the mall. Consolidate as many packages as possible.

WHILE SHOPPING

- If you have to carry a purse, carry it close to your body and always zipped
- Park strategically close to the store is optimum. Park in well-lit areas. Never park next to a van.
- Know exactly where you park your car. Make a mental note or write it down so you will know exactly where to go when you leave the store

AFTER SHOPPING

- Leave the mall/store well before closing time. This way, there is greater assurance you will walk out with other people. There is safety in numbers
- Avoid shopping until you are exhausted. You are more alert when you are less tired
- When hurried or in a crowded shop, make sure you get all forms of I.D. and credit cards returned to you before leaving
- Use an escort or mall security if you have too many packages or if you are leaving the store after closing
- Check underneath your car as you approach it. This is a common ploy of criminals in parking lots and they will take you by surprise

AT HOME

- Keep gifts hidden from view through outside windows
- After opening gifts, break down cardboard boxes of expensive electronics and fancy stores and put them in plastic bags to hide the fact you have valuable items in your home

*MAKE YOUR HOLIDAY
A SAFE ONE*

